

## **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY & ITS IMPACT IN IMPROVING THE TEACHING AND LEARNING OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The impact of information and communication technology (ICT) on language learning has been recognized globally such that the combination of ICT in language learning has become essential in today's teaching learning scenario. Information and communication technologies today have transformed the way humans communicate as well as doing things. In education, ICTs play vital roles in facilitating teaching and learning. This is because of the primary role it plays in the advancement of the frontiers of knowledge in language learning.

This is more so when the world is fast becoming a global village where the use of modern technological gadgets to improve language learning has become imperative. This paper examines some stereotyped but strenuous methods of language learning and highlights some of the prospects derivable from using ICT for optimal performance. Some of the challenges facing the use of ICT in language learning are also discussed. Provision of internet facilities in schools, regular supply of electricity are some of the recommendations made to improve language learning through ICT.

**KEYWORDS:** Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Language, Multimedia, E-Learning

### **INTRODUCTION**

ICT (Information and Communication Technology) has been used in almost all fields of life, including in education. In education, computer technology has become so essential that the government put ICT as one of the curriculum in World's education. The utilization of ICT in education has recently started to appeal the potential and significant progress in language learning. It has become a major issue in education world and has been used from pre-school through to post graduation in university that could facilitate students and teachers in teaching and learning process. ICT has been publicized as potentially powerful enabling tools for educational change and reform.

The computers play important role in the education process particularly in learning language. Every schools and colleges have used the ICT to facilitate the teacher to teach the students in the classroom. Many kinds of application that they use in the classroom improved and enhanced the better session.

### **ICTs with English Language Teaching Learning Process**

#### **Internet**

The Internet is very useful for teaching English. Teachers can use it for gathering information for their classes, including teaching plans and materials for classroom use. They can subscribe to mailing lists related to IELTS/TOEFL/GRE and exchange information with other teachers. They can subscribe to electronic journals or newsletters either by e-mail or using the World Wide Web and keep up with new trends of English teaching, finding new or interesting publications. They can consult with publishers on teaching materials. Teachers can use the Internet for

gathering information. For example, English Phonetics is the topic for a class, you can use search engines.

### **Multimedia Technology**

Interactive media is the integration of digital media including combinations of electronic text, graphics, moving images, and sound, into a structured digital computerized environment that allows people to interact with the data for appropriate purposes.

Multimedia can be defined as the technology that combines texts with images, audio, video and animation. The application of multimedia in the learning and teaching of English creates opportunity for the teacher to bring almost real life situation in to the classroom. Multimedia can be used in different ways by teachers of English Language in classes.

### **E-learning**

E-learning, includes learning at all levels, formal and informal, which uses a computer network (intranet and extranet) for the delivery of teaching materials, interaction, and / or facilitation. For most of the process of learning that takes place with the help of the Internet is often referred to as online learning. The e-learning is learning through electronic services. Although a variety of definitions but basically agreed that the e-learning is learning by using electronic technology as a means of presenting and distributing information. Included in the definition of educational television and radio broadcasts is a form of e-learning. Although radio and television education is a form of e-learning, it is generally agreed that e-learning reaches peak form after synergize with internet technology.

Anand Agricultural University has developed various e-courses under NAIP project. The students are benefitted through communication skill and scientific and technical writing courses for language improvement. Using these courses in university education, teachers and learners do not have to rely solely on printed books and other physical materials housed in libraries for their educational needs. This is because with the internet and World Wide Web (WWW), a large volume of learning materials in almost every subject and in a variety of media can now be accessed from anywhere at any time of the day and by unlimited number of people.

### **E- Library**

An electronic library (colloquially referred to as a digital library) is a library in which collections are stored in electronic media formats and accessible via computers. Now a day's many English learning tutorials, journals, periodicals, videos, audios are available in e-library. Students can be benefitted from such language library and make learning process very easy and interesting. Some institutions have begun the task of converting classic books to electronic format for distribution on the Internet. Some files can be viewed directly in HTML format; others can be downloaded in PDF format and printed. Some publishers keep electronic files of books and produce them one unit at a time in printed and bound form on demand.

### **Cellular Technology**

Cellular technology or Mobile technology uses gadgets like cell phone and smart phone which are equipped with programs like computer, which enable it to perform as mini personal computer. By using this gadget and its internet connection, everybody could enjoy chatting, browsing, and discuss each other with the wider range. The advancement of science and technology makes the size and price of those gadgets are getting cheaper and reachable.

Now a day's these smart phones are having applications or software which provide effective and efficient English

learning through games, puzzles, rhymes, animated stories, grammar test, spelling test etc. Just we have to download it to our Android, iPhone, iPad and Windows Phone apps to help us learn English.

### **Social Media**

This media provides facility or example that enables an interaction between human and computer. People set up more interaction with computer in a more intuitive way with less effort-through writing, voice, touch, eye movements, and other gestures. Social Media like Facebook, WhatsApp, Orkut, Google+ etc are popular among youth and they can made English learning process easy. Through chatting they can chat or interact with each other and put their English learning in practice in day-to-day life.

### **Electronic Books**

Electronic book or e-book is one that utilizes computer technology to deliver multimedia information in the form of a compact and dynamic form. In an e-book can be integrated impressions, sound, graphics, images, animations, and movie, so that the information presented is richer than conventional books. Type e-book of the simplest is a mere transfer of conventional books into electronic form displayed by the computer. With this technology, hundreds of books can be stored in a single piece of solid disc like CD, DVD and blue ray. Using these storage media store English literature, lessons, tutorials in their computers and learn at their place at his convenience. It used to store more complex and require more rigorous designs such as the Encyclopedia Britannica and Microsoft Encarta encyclopedia which is in multimedia format. Multimedia format allows e-book provides not only written information but also sound, images, movies and other multimedia elements. A description of the type of music, for example, can be accompanied by footage of the sound of music so that the user can clearly understand what is meant by the renderer.

### **Opportunities**

- Development of ICT will also allow the development of virtual classroom or classroom-based teleconference that does not require the educator and learners are in one room.
- Video lectures from renowned teachers from reputed institutes can be easily available on internet.
- Modernism in learning is growing in the presence of e-learning innovations that further facilitate the educational process.
- System administration in an institution will be more easily and smoothly because of the application of ICT systems.
- The information required will be more quickly and easily accessible for educational purposes.

### **Challenges**

- ICT requires Internet facility in order to access or learn English languages. It might be possible that Internet may not be available everywhere.
- The Progress of ICT will also occur of violation of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) for the easy access to the data that is causing people plagiaries will commit fraud.

- Learn English languages with audio and video requires multimedia instruments. It also requires expertise to record lectures.
- One of the harmful impacts of smart phone based learning is to train children to think short and survive concentrated in a short time (short span of attention).

### Solutions

- Nowadays Government has established back bone for Internet and providing VSAT for Internet access in educational institute.
- Governments are providing computers, laptops, ipad on subsidized cost to students.
- Government emphasize on education and training for teachers on ICT and language.

### CONCLUSIONS

This paper has sought to explore the role of ICT in Language teaching and learning in university Education. ICT is a form of advanced science technology must be optimized function, especially in the implementation of learning. ICT provides opportunities for students in the era of global competition needs to obtain adequate supplies. Through innovative ICT-based learning can provide vast opportunities for students to hone and promote competence on an international scale. We have looked at the ways we can enhance the teaching and learning of language using ICT forms. We have seen that extrapolating current activities and practices and the continued use and development of ICTs within university education will have a strong impact on what is learned, how it is learned, when and where it is learned and who is learning and who is teaching. The factors that can enhance teaching and learning were enumerated. The websites that provide language education on the internet can be used efficiently by both teachers and learners. These sites are categorized as language exchange websites, Language Portals, virtual online schools and support websites. If teachers can make use of ICT facilities in teaching and learning of language, there will be more productive students. The study therefore, has shown that information and communication technologies encompasses several devices that the teacher can manipulate appropriate on for a lesson being taught to facilitate delivery, learning activities as well as evaluation.

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